

	NIJ
Special	REPORT
Test Results for Hardware Write Block Device:	

T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge (USB Interface)

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Introduction

The Computer Forensics Tool Testing (CFTT) program is a joint project of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the research and development organization of the U.S. Department of Justice, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST's) Office of Law Enforcement Standards and Information Technology Laboratory. CFTT is supported by other organizations, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the U.S. Department of Defense Cyber Crime Center, Internal Revenue Service Criminal Investigation's Electronic Crimes Program, and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and U.S. Secret Service. The objective of the CFTT program is to provide measurable assurance to practitioners, researchers, and other applicable users that the tools used in computer forensics investigations provide accurate results. Accomplishing this requires the development of specifications and test methods for computer forensics tools and subsequent testing of specific tools against those specifications.

Test results provide the information necessary for developers to improve tools, users to make informed choices, and the legal community and others to understand the tools' capabilities. This approach to testing computer forensic tools is based on well-recognized methodologies for conformance and quality testing. The specifications and test methods are posted on the CFTT Web site (http://www.cftt.nist.gov/) for review and comment by the computer forensics community.

This document reports the results from testing the **T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge (USB Interface)** write blocker, against the *Hardware Write Blocker (HWB) Assertions and Test Plan Version 1.0* and *Hardware Write Blocker Device (HWB) Specification, Version 2.0*, available at the CFTT Web site (http://www.cftt.nist.gov/hardware_write_block.htm). This specification identifies the following top-level tool requirements:

- A hardware write block (HWB) device shall not transmit a command to a
 protected storage device that modifies the data on the storage device.
- An HWB device shall return the data requested by a read operation.
- An HWB device shall return without modification any access-significant information requested from the drive.
- Any error condition reported by the storage device to the HWB device shall be reported to the host.

Test results for other tools and devices can be found on NIJ's computer forensics tool testing Web page, http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/nij/topics/technology/electronic-crime/cftt.htm.

Test Results for Hardware Write Block Devices

Device Tested: T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge¹

Model: T4

Serial No: 000ECC010004D0B5 Firmware: Jun 27 2007 09:40:43

Host to Blocker Interface: USB Blocker to Drive Interface: SCSI

Supplier: Tableau, LLC

Address: N8 W22195 Johnson Drive, Suite 100

Waukesha, WI 53186 http://www.tableau.com/

1 Results Summary by Requirements

 An HWB device shall not transmit a command to a protected storage device that modifies the data on the storage device.

For all test cases run, the device always blocked any commands that would have changed user or operating system data stored on a protected drive.

• An HWB device shall return the data requested by a read operation.

For all test cases run, the device always allowed commands to read the protected drive.

• An HWB device shall return without modification any access-significant information requested from the drive.

For all test cases run, the device always returned access-significant information from the protected drive without modification.

• Any error condition reported by the storage device to the HWB device shall be reported to the host.

For all test cases run, the device always returned error codes from the protected drive without modification.

2 Test Case Selection

Since a protocol analyzer was available for the interface between the blocker and the protected drive, the following test cases were appropriate:

¹ Tableau produces this write block device for resale under various partner labels. See http://www.tableau.com for information on resellers.

- HWB-01
- HWB-03
- HWB-05
- HWB-06
- HWB-08
- HWB-09

For test case HWB-03, two variations were selected: file (attempt to use operating system commands to create and delete files and directories from a protected drive) and image (use an imaging tool to attempt to write to a protected drive).

3 Testing Environment

The tests were run in the NIST CFTT lab. This section describes the hardware (test computers and hard drives) available for testing.

3.1 Test Computers

Two test computers were used: **SamSpade** and **Max**.

SamSpade has the following configuration:

Intel® Desktop Motherboard FIC IC–VL67 (865G; S478; 800MHz)
BIOS Phoenix Award version v6.00PG
Intel® PentiumTM 4 CPU
Plextor DVDR PX-716A, ATAPI CD/DVD-ROM Drive
Western Digital Corporation WD800JB–00JJC0, 80 GB ATA disk drive
1.44 MB floppy drive
Three IEEE 1394 ports
Four USB ports

Max has the following configuration:

Intel Desktop Motherboard D865GB/D865PERC (with ATA-6 IDE on board controller) BIOS Version BF86510A.86A.0053.P13

Adaptec SCSI BIOS V3.10.0

Intel® PentiumTM 4 CPU 3.4Ghz

2577972KB RAM

SONY DVD RW DRU-530A, ATAPI CD/DVD-ROM drive

1.44 MB floppy drive

Two slots for removable IDE hard disk drives

Two slots for removable SATA hard disk drives

Two slots for removable SCSI hard disk drives

3.2 Protocol Analyzer

A Data Transit bus protocol analyzer (Bus Doctor Rx) was used to monitor and record commands sent from the host to the write blocker. Two identical protocol analyzers were available for monitoring commands.

One of two Dell laptop computers (either **Chip** or **Dale**) was connected to each protocol analyzer to record commands observed by the protocol analyzer.

3.3 Hard Disk Drives

One SCSI interface device was used in testing:

• Drive label 25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB).

```
Drive label: 25
Partition table Drive /dev/sda
143374741 total number of sectors
Non-IDE disk
Model (ST373405LC
                          ) serial # (3EK020ZB00002149H4DV)
    Start LBA Length Start C/H/S End C/H/S boot Partition type
 1 P 000000063 037752687 0000/001/01 1023/254/63 Boot 0C Fat32X
 3 S 000000063 063681597 1023/001/01 1023/254/63 07 NTFS
4 x 063681660 004192965 1023/000/01 1023/254/63 05 extended
5 S 000000063 004192902 1023/001/01 1023/254/63 06 Fat16
6 x 067874625 000016065 1023/000/01 1023/254/63 05 extended
 7 S 000000063 000016002 1023/001/01 1023/254/63
                                                           04 Fat16
 8 S 000000000 000000000 0000/000/00 0000/000/00
                                                           00 empty entry
 9 P 00000000 00000000 0000/000/00 0000/000/00
                                                             00 empty entry
10 P 000000000 000000000 0000/000/00 0000/000/00
                                                             00 empty entry
```

3.4 Support Software

The software in the following table was used to send commands to the protected drive. One widely used imaging tool, IXimager, was used to generate disk activity (reads and writes) consistent with a realistic scenario of an accidental modification of an unprotected hard drive during a forensic examination. This does not imply an endorsement of the imaging tool.

Program	Description		
sendSCSI	A tool to send SCSI commands wrapped in the USB or IEEE 1394		
	(FireWire) protocols to a drive.		
FS-TST	Software from the FS–TST tools was used to generate errors from the hard drive by trying to read beyond the end of the drive. The FS–TST software was also used to setup the hard drives and print partition tables and drive size.		
IXimager	An imaging tool (ILook IXimager version 2.0, February 2006) for test case		
	04-img.		

4 Test Results

The main item of interest for interpreting the test results is determining the conformance of the device with the test assertions. Conformance with each assertion tested by a given test case is evaluated by examining the Blocker Input and Blocker Output boxes of the test report summary.

4.1 Test Results Report Key

A summary of the actual test results is presented in this report. The following table presents a description of each section of the test report summary.

Description	
Test case ID; name, model, and interface of device tested.	
Test case summary from <i>Hardware Write Blocker (HWB)</i>	
Assertions and Test Plan Version 1.0.	
The test assertions applicable to the test case, selected from	
Hardware Write Blocker (HWB) Assertions and Test Plan	
Version 1.0.	
Name or initials of person executing test procedure.	
Time and date that test was started and completed.	
Identification of the following:	
1. Host computer for executing the test case.	
2. Laptop attached to each protocol analyzer.	
3. Protocol analyzers monitoring each interface.	
4. Interface between host and blocker.	
5. Interface between blocker and protected drive.	
6. Execution environment for tool sending commands	
from the host.	
Description of the protected hard drive.	
A list of commands sent from the host to the blocker.	
For test case HWB–01, a list of each command code	
observed on the bus between the host computer and the	
blocker and a count of the number of times the command	
was observed is provided.	
For test cases HWB-03 and HW06, a list of each	
command sent and the number of times the command was	
sent.	
For test case HWB–05, a string of known data from a given	
location is provided for reference.	

Heading	Description	
Blocker Output	A list of commands observed by the protocol analyzer on the bus from the blocker to the protected drive.	
	For test case HWB–01, a list of each command code observed on the bus between the blocker and the protected drive and a count of the number of times the command was observed is provided. Also, a count of the number of unique commands sent (from the Blocker Input box) and a count of the number of unique commands observed on the bus between the blocker and the protected drive.	
	For test cases HWB–03 and HWB–06, a list of each command sent and the number of times the command was sent.	
	For test case HWB–05, a string read from a given location is provided for comparison to known data.	
	For test case HWB–08, the number of sectors determined for the protected drive and the partition table are provided.	
	For test case HWB–09, any error return obtained by trying to access a nonexistent sector of the drive is provided.	
Results	Expected and actual results for each assertion tested.	
Analysis	Whether or not the expected results were achieved.	

4.2 Test Details

4.2.1 HWB-01

Test Case HWB-01 Variation hwb-01 T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge USB		
Case Summary:	HWB-01 Identify commands blocked by the HWB.	
Assertions Tested:	HWB-AM-01 The HWB shall not transmit any modifying category operation to the protected storage device. HWB-AM-05 The action that a HWB device takes for any commands not assigned to the modifying, read or information categories is defined by the vendor.	
Tester Name:	brl	
Test Date:	run start Tue Oct 28 15:42:07 2008 run finish Tue Oct 28 16:21:02 2008	
Test Configuration:	HOST: Max HostToBlocker Monitor: Chip HostToBlocker PA: AA00155 HostToBlocker Interface: USB BlockerToDrive Monitor: Dale BlockerToDrive PA: AA00111 BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI Run Environment: Linux	

Test Case HWB-01	l Variati	ion hwb-01 T4 Fore	nsic SCSI Bridge USB
Drives:		ed drive: 25	
	25 is a	SEAGATE ST3734051	C with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)
Blocker Input:	Command	s Sent to Blocker	
	Count	Commands	
	1	BLANK	
	1	CHG	
	1	CLOS	
	1	COMPARE	
	1	COPY	
	1	COPY/VERIFY	
	1	ERASE	
	1	ERASE(10)	
	1	FORMAT	
	3	GET	
	1	INQUIRY	
	1	LK/UNLK	
	1	LOAD/UNLOAD	
	2	LOG	
	1	MECH	
	1	MEDIUM	
	4	MODE	
	1	PAUSE/RESUME	
	2	PERSISTENT	
	5	PLAY	
	2	PLY	
	1	PRE-FETCH	
	1	PREVENT/ALLOW	
	7	RD	
	13	READ	
	547	READ(10)	
	1	READ(12)	
	1	REASSIGN	
	1	RECEIVE	
	1	RECIEVE(6)	
	1	RECOVER	
	1	RELEASE(10)	
	1	RELEASE(6)	
	1	REPAIR	
	5	REPORT	
	1	REQ	
	248	REQUEST_SENSE	
	1	RESERVE(10)	
	1	RESERVE(6)	
	1	REZERO	
	65	Reserved	
	1	SCAN	
	1	SEEK(10)	
	1	SEEK(6)	
	9	SEND	
	1	SEND(6)	
	4	SET	
	1	SND	
	1	SPACE	
	6	SRCH	
	1	START/STOP	
	1	STOP	
	1	SYNCH	
	18	TEST	
	1	UPDATE	
	1	VERIFY	
	1	VERIFY(12)	
	1	VERIFY(6)	
	5	WRITE	
	1	WRITE(10)	
	1	WRITE(12)	
	1	WRITE/VERIFY	

Test Case HWB-01	1 Variati	on hwb-01 T4 Forensic SCSI	Bridge USB
	1	XDREAD(10)	
	1	XDWRITE(10)	
	1	XDWRITEREAD(10)	
	1	XPWRITE(10)	
	66 comma	ands sent	
Blocker	Command	s Allowed by Blocker	
Output:	Count	Commands	
	1	00h = TEST UNIT READY	
	2	03h = REQUEST SENSE	
	1	1Bh = START/STOP	
	1	1Eh = PREVENT/ALLOW MEDIU	M REMOVAL
	547	28h = READ(10)	
	1	2Fh = VERIFY(10)	
	1	35h = SYNCH CACHE	
		ands sent, 7 commands allow	
Results:		ion & Expected Result	Actual Result
		Modifying commands blocked	
	AM-05	HWB behavior recorded	HWB behavior recorded
Analysis:	Expected	d results achieved	

4.2.2 HWB-03

Test Case HWB-0	3 Variation hwb-03-file T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge USB		
Case Summary:	HWB-03 Identify commands blocked by the HWB while attempting to modify a		
_	protected drive with forensic tools.		
Assertions	HWB-AM-01 The HWB shall not transmit any modifying category operation to		
Tested:	the protected storage device.		
	HWB-AM-05 The action that a HWB device takes for any commands not		
	assigned to the modifying, read or information categories is defined by		
	the vendor.		
Tester Name:	brl		
Test Date:	run start Mon Oct 27 19:41:13 2008		
	run finish Mon Oct 27 20:05:05 2008		
Test	HOST: Max		
Configuration:	HostToBlocker Monitor: Chip		
001111111111111111111111111111111111111	HostToBlocker PA: AA00155		
	HOSTTOBlocker Interface: USB		
	BlockerToDrive Monitor: Dale		
	BlockerToDrive PA: AA00111		
	BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI		
	Run Environment: WXP		
Drives:	Protected drive: 25		
	25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)		
Blocker Input:	Commands Sent to Blocker		
	Count Commands		
	5 MODE		
	6 PREVENT/ALLOW		
	10 READ		
	5794 READ(10)		
	79 REQUEST_SENSE		
	202 TEST		
	33 WRITE(10)		
	7 commands sent		
Blocker	Commands Sent Commands Allowed by Blocker		
Output:	Count Commands		
	5 00h = TEST UNIT READY		
	5793 28h = READ(10)		
	7 commands sent, 2 commands allowed		
Results:	Assertion & Expected Result Actual Result		
	AM-01 Modifying commands blocked Modifying commands blocked		
	AM-05 HWB behavior recorded HWB behavior recorded		
Analysis:	Expected results achieved		

4.2.3 HWB-03

Test Case HWB-0	3 Variation hwb-03-img T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge USB		
Case Summary:	HWB-03 Identify commands blocked by the HWB while attempting to modify a		
-	protected drive with forensic tools.		
Assertions	HWB-AM-01 The HWB shall not transmit any modifying category operation to		
Tested:	the protected storage device.		
	HWB-AM-05 The action that a HWB device takes for any commands not		
	assigned to the modifying, read or information categories is defined by		
	the vendor.		
Tester Name:	brl		
Test Date:	run start Mon Oct 27 09:54:26 2008		
	run finish Mon Oct 27 18:27:57 2008		
Test	HOST: SamSpade		
Configuration:	HostToBlocker Monitor: Chip		
	HostToBlocker PA: AA00155		
	HostToBlocker Interface: USB		
	BlockerToDrive Monitor: Dale		
	BlockerToDrive PA: AA00111		
	BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI		
	Run Environment: IX		
Drives:	Protected drive: 25		
	25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)		
Blocker Input:	Commands Sent to Blocker		
	Count Commands		
	2 INQUIRY		
	96 READ(10)		
	2529 REQUEST_SENSE		
	2529 WRITE(10)		
Blocker	4 commands sent		
	Commands Allowed by Blocker		
Output:	Count Commands		
	96 28h = READ(10)		
Results:	4 commands sent, 1 commands allowed Assertion & Expected Result		
results.			
	AM-01 Modifying commands blocked Modifying commands blocked		
	AM-05 HWB behavior recorded HWB behavior recorded		
Analugias	Ermogted magulta aghioved		
Analysis:	Expected results achieved		

4.2.4 HWB-05

Test Case HWB-0	5 Variation hwb-05 T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge USB		
Case Summary:	HWB-05 Identify read commands allowed by the HWB.		
Assertions Tested:	HWB-AM-02 If the host sends a read category operation to the HWB and no error is returned from the protected storage device to the HWB, then the data addressed by the original read operation is returned to the host.		
Tester Name:	brl		
Test Date:	run start Wed Apr 1 13:46:59 2009 run finish Wed Apr 1 14:06:26 2009		
Test Configuration:	HOST: SamSpade HostToBlocker Monitor: Dale HostToBlocker PA: AA00111 HostToBlocker Interface: USB BlockerToDrive Monitor: Chip BlockerToDrive PA: AA00155 BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI Run Environment: Linux		
Drives:	Protected drive: 25 25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)		
Blocker Input:	Commands Sent to Blocker Read sector 32767 for the string: 00002/010/08 000000032767		
Blocker Output:	00002/010/08 000000032767 00002/010/08 000000032767		
Results:	Assertion & Expected Result Actual Result AM-02 Read commands allowed Read commands allowed		
Analysis:	Expected results achieved		

4.2.5 HWB-06

Test Case HWB-0	6 Variation hwb-06-img T4 Forensic SCSI	Bridge USB	
Case Summary:	HWB-06 Identify read and information commands used by forensic tools and allowed by the HWB.		
Assertions Tested:	HWB-AM-02 If the host sends a read category operation to the HWB and no error is returned from the protected storage device to the HWB, then the data addressed by the original read operation is returned to the host. HWB-AM-03 If the host sends an information category operation to the HWB and if there is no error on the protected storage device, then any returned access-significant information is returned to the host without modification. HWB-AM-05 The action that a HWB device takes for any commands not assigned to the modifying, read or information categories is defined by the vendor.		
Tester Name:	brl		
Test Date:	run start Tue Oct 28 13:54:42 2008 run finish Tue Oct 28 14:18:00 2008		
Test Configuration:	HOST: Max HostToBlocker Monitor: Chip HostToBlocker PA: AA00155 HostToBlocker Interface: USB BlockerToDrive Monitor: Dale BlockerToDrive PA: AA00111 BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI Run Environment: IX		
Drives:	Protected drive: 25 25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 1433747	741 sectors (73 GB)	
Blocker Input:	Commands Sent to Blocker Count Commands 6 INQUIRY 2 MODE 5 PREVENT/ALLOW 6 READ 144 READ(10) 21 REQUEST_SENSE 12 TEST 7 commands sent		
Blocker Output:	Commands Allowed by Blocker Count Commands 141 28h = READ(10)		
	7 commands sent, 1 commands allowed		
Results:	Assertion & Expected Result AM-02 Read commands allowed AM-03 Access Significant Information unaltered AM-05 HWB behavior recorded	Actual Result Read commands allowed Access Significant Information unaltered HWB behavior recorded	
Analysis:	Expected results achieved		

4.2.6 HWB-08

Test Case HWB-0	8 Variation hwb-08 T4 Forensic SCSI Brid	ge USB	
Case Summary:	HWB-08 Identify access significant information unmodified by the HWB.		
Assertions	HWB-AM-03 If the host sends an information category operation to the HWB		
Tested:	and if there is no error on the protected storage device, then any		
	returned access-significant information is returned to the host without		
	modification.		
Tester Name:	brl		
Test Date:	run start Tue Oct 28 14:57:20 2008		
	run finish Tue Oct 28 15:00:27 2008		
Test	HOST: Max		
Configuration:	HostToBlocker Monitor: none		
	HostToBlocker PA: none		
	HostToBlocker Interface: USB		
	BlockerToDrive Monitor: none BlockerToDrive PA: none		
	BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI		
	Run Environment: Linux		
	ran biviloimere binar		
Drives:	Protected drive: 25		
	25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)		
Blocker	cmd: partab HWB-08 Max brl /dev/sda 25 -all -new_log		
Output:	143374741 total number of sectors		
Results:	Assertion & Expected Result	Actual Result	
	AM-03 Access Significant Information	Access Significant Information	
	unaltered	unaltered	
Analysis:	Expected results achieved		

4.2.7 HWB-09

Test Case HWB-09 Variation hwb-09 T4 Forensic SCSI Bridge USB		
Case Summary:	HWB-09 Determine if an error on the protected drive is returned to the	
	host.	
Assertions	HWB-AM-04 If the host sends an operation to the HWB and if the operation	
Tested:	results in an unresolved error on the protected storage device, then the	
	HWB shall return an error status code to the host.	
Tester Name:	brl	
Test Date:	ate: run start Tue Oct 28 15:12:30 2008	
	run finish Tue Oct 28 15:20:35 2008	
Test	HOST: Max	
Configuration:	HostToBlocker Monitor: Chip	
	HostToBlocker PA: AA00155	
	HostToBlocker Interface: USB	
	BlockerToDrive Monitor: Dale	
	BlockerToDrive PA: AA00111	
	BlockerToDrive Interface: SCSI	
	Run Environment: Linux	
Drives:	Protected drive: 25	
DIIVES.	25 is a SEAGATE ST373405LC with 143374741 sectors (73 GB)	
Blocker	08923/254/63 (max cyl/hd values)	
Output:	08924/255/63 (number of cv1/hd)	
	143374741 total number of sectors	
	cmd: diskchg HWB-09 Max brl /dev/sda -read 243374741 0 1	
	Disk addr lba 243374741 C/H/S 15149/96/9 offset 0	
	Disk read error 0xFFFFFFF at sector 15149/96/9	
Results:	Assertion & Expected Result Actual Result	
	AM-04 Error code returned Error code returned	
Analysis:	Expected results achieved	

About the National Institute of Justice

NIJ is the research, development, and evaluation agency of the U.S. Department of Justice. NIJ's mission is to advance scientific research, development, and evaluation to enhance the administration of justice and public safety. NIJ's principal authorities are derived from the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended (see 42 U.S.C. §§ 3721–3723).

The NIJ Director is appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate. The Director establishes the Institute's objectives, guided by the priorities of the Office of Justice Programs, the U.S. Department of Justice, and the needs of the field. The Institute actively solicits the views of criminal justice and other professionals and researchers to inform its search for the knowledge and tools to guide policy and practice.

Strategic Goals

NIJ has seven strategic goals grouped into three categories:

Creating relevant knowledge and tools

- 1. Partner with State and local practitioners and policymakers to identify social science research and technology needs.
- 2. Create scientific, relevant, and reliable knowledge—with a particular emphasis on terrorism, violent crime, drugs and crime, cost-effectiveness, and community-based efforts—to enhance the administration of justice and public safety.
- 3. Develop affordable and effective tools and technologies to enhance the administration of justice and public safety.

Dissemination

- 4. Disseminate relevant knowledge and information to practitioners and policymakers in an understandable, timely, and concise manner.
- 5. Act as an honest broker to identify the information, tools, and technologies that respond to the needs of stakeholders.

Agency management

- 6. Practice fairness and openness in the research and development process.
- 7. Ensure professionalism, excellence, accountability, cost-effectiveness, and integrity in the management and conduct of NIJ activities and programs.

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In addressing these strategic challenges, the Institute is involved in the following program areas: crime control and prevention, including policing; drugs and crime; justice systems and offender behavior, including corrections; violence and victimization; communications and information technologies; critical incident response; investigative and forensic sciences, including DNA; less-than-lethal technologies; officer protection; education and training technologies; testing and standards; technology assistance to law enforcement and corrections agencies; field testing of promising programs; and international crime control.

In addition to sponsoring research and development and technology assistance, NIJ evaluates programs, policies, and technologies. NIJ communicates its research and evaluation findings through conferences and print and electronic media.

To find out more about the National Institute of Justice, please visit:

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